



DOGSTHORPE ACADEMY

21 September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of a new academic year.

This year, with 373 pupils on roll, we have the largest number of pupils at Dogsthorpe Academy in a long time. We have made some changes over the summer to improve the use of space inside the academy and we also have an additional mobile classroom, Juniper sited next to the dining hall.

There have been some changes to the access at the front of the building to improve safety and reduce congestion. Our Year 6 children have started to leave their classrooms at the end of the day at the front of the school. They have their own path which leads onto the pavement on Central Avenue and their own gate. The improvements mean that the children are kept away from cars and car parks. Y6 children with bicycles and scooters will currently still be able to leave school from the rear corridor.

We have reduced congestion on to the playground at the end of the school day. Parents in the new classroom Juniper should drop off and collect at Juniper's own gate by the tunnel next to the dining hall.

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We have made some changes to the teaching team for this academic year.

Our classes for this year will be led by:

Year 3 : Mrs Hartley—Juniper, Mr Wright—Acer, Miss Wigley—Lilac, Miss Read—Chestnut

Year 4 : Miss Hoyles, - Almond, Mr Tootal—Maple, Miss Shabir—Cherrytree

Year 5 : Miss Ross—Pine, Miss Mohan—Sycamore, Miss Gibson—Elm

Year 6 : Mrs Dunford—Ash, Mr Baines-Larch, Miss Scott, - Oak

In addition, we have some additional staff who will be teaching classes to provide continuity while class teachers are away from their classes for Planning and Preparation time, training and any other absence. These staff members can also deliver additional sessions to support the education and progress of groups of children. The additional teaching team includes Mrs Pleus, Mrs McDonald, Mrs Jordan, Mrs Lang, Mr Crowson and Mrs Hendy.

If you have any queries or concerns please do contact us so that we can work together to resolve them. Please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. Teachers are usually available at the end of the school day. Please avoid trying to speak to teachers at the start of the school day; As I am sure you will appreciate they are very busy at this time as they are supervising children and starting lessons.





School calendar 2019-2020

Mon 21 Oct—Mon 28 October Half Term

Tues 29 Oct—Start of Autumn Term 2

Fri 20 Dec—End of Term

Mon 23 Dec—Mon 6 Jan—Christmas Holidays

2020

Tues 7 Jan—Return to school for Spring Term 1

Mon 17 Feb—Fri 21 February Half Term

Mon 6 April—Fri 17 Apr –Easter holidays

Mon 4 May—Bank holiday. School Closed.

Mon 25 May– Fri 29 May Half Term

Mon 20 July Start of summer holidays

School dates

Mon 30 Sept—Photos with DIS siblings

Fri 4 Oct Macmillan coffee morning

Wed 9 October SEN drop in

Thurs 10 October—Hello Yellow—Mental Health Awareness day

Tues 15 Oct Y6- Fossil workshop

Thurs 17 Oct- Immunisations

Thurs 17 and Fri 18 Oct Year 3 to Flag Fen

Tues 29 Oct—Y6 trip to Hamerton Zoo

Weds 30 October Y6 Parents open morning

Mon 4 Nov and Weds 6 Nov Parents evenings

Fri 13 Dec Christmas Jumper day

Tues 17 and Weds 18 Dec Year 3 Nativity

Y5 visit date tbc

Academy Uniform

All uniform items should be ordered from our online Uniform shop. This can be accessed through the School website. Please go to www.dogsthorpeacademy.org then select Parents—uniform and click on the 'Price and Buckland' logo. We do not hold uniform items in the school office.

Here is a reminder of the school uniform. Please do not introduce any alterations to the approved uniform:

Academy jumper or cardigan and an Academy polo shirt (years 3 and 4) or white shirt and tie (Years 5 and 6) grey trousers or skirt, black or grey socks with trousers, white socks or grey tights with skirts. Academy jumpers, cardigans and polo shirts can be purchased from the office. Children should wear sensible flat, black shoes, (not trainers or boots) and a warm coat (not denim). All children are expected to attend the Academy every day wearing the correct uniform.

PE kit : For PE lessons children should wear an Academy PE shirt and black shorts. Children will also need plimsolls or trainers and grey or black tracksuit bottoms for the cooler months. Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and some Year 6s will go swimming for one term in the school year and will need a full piece swimming costume or swimming trunks, not shorts. Swimming hats will also need to be worn and further details will be given when your child goes swimming.

Parking and dropping off

We are having some problems caused by parents and carers parking inappropriately at the start and end of the school day. The yellow zigzags on central Avenue mean that you should not stop or park,. Do not stop on the Yellow zig zags to drop children off at the start of the school day. The Local Authority have placed cameras directed at the area at the front of school on Central Avenue. Please remember that it is an offence to park or stop on yellow zig zags outside a school. There are two driveways for access to school car parks. Please do not be tempted to park or drop children off in these areas. The entrances and exits are needed for staff access and also for emergency services in the event of an emergency.





Lunches

We are anticipating starting pre-ordering system for lunches this term. There has been a delay to starting this system fully. However look out for an email which will inform you of the new system where you will be able to choose your child's meal in advance.

There are still some children who are new to Dogsthorpe Academy who have not yet set up their Parentpay account. You will need to do this to pay for all purchases e.g. trips, swimming and lunches.

SEN DROP-in session

Our SENCO, Mrs Hawkey will be holding a drop in session on Wednesday 9th October at 9.15am. You will also be invited to work with your child for a short session in class after the meeting. If you have any concerns about your child's progress please make an appointment or drop in.

Dogsthorpe Academy Advisory Council

We have vacancies on our Academy Advisory Council for parent representatives. This group meets once a term to provide a forum for parent consultation. Please see our clerk Mrs Horsley on reception if you are interested in joining this Council.

Term Time Absences/Holidays : Our target for pupils attendance is 96%. Attendance which is 90% and below could lead to further action being taken and potentially a fine starting at £60 per parent per child. Our Term Dates are available at anytime on our website so please book holidays and visits to see family overseas within school holiday periods. The government sets the rules for schools and absences during term time can only be authorised in a few unavoidable and very exceptional circumstances. Holidays during term term usually result in a penalty notice.

Punctuality: It is important that your child gets to school on time. The doors to school open at 8.40am and are locked at 8.50am. After this time children should arrive through Reception where their late mark will be recorded.



Look out for more details about Hello Yellow day on Thursday 10th October. We will be asking children to wear Yellow.

Whether you choose a subtle splash of colour or dress like sunshine from head-to-toe, together we can show young people they're not alone with their mental health.

